



Chess Academy November Update

Happy November! Last month, we finished the Cranky Princess series and now we are learning beginning game strategies.

The first strategy we will learn is getting your pieces to the center of the board. If your pieces are in the center, you are in control of the board and your pieces have more space to move. The 2nd strategy is castling. This is when the king moves over a couple spaces and the rook jumps to the other side of him. This strategy helps form a “castle” around your king to keep him safe. The last strategy is called “when the rooks say hello, its time to go.” It help encourages the kids to get all of their pieces off the back row and into the game.

Questions? Please don't hesitate to email me!
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Skills Learned & Practiced:

- Mental Agility
- Mental Vigilance
- Collaboration
- Visualization
- Acting & Role Playing
- Following Directions
- Observing & Learning
- Making a Plan (& also adapting when plans don't work!)
- Leadership
- Forgiveness
- The power of being polite

Chess Exercises

The exercises are specifically centered around the strategies that we learned. As we do the exercises, I encourage the children to process why that strategy works and is important.

If they can come to the conclusion themselves, with guidance of course, it will stick better than me just telling them. They also get so excited when they figure out what the riddles (strategies) mean!